Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LAGOS 08459 101527Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 EB-08 COME-00 IO-13 SCS-06
CA-01 HA-05 /103 W
----------073628 101540Z /11
P 101300Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9379

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 8459

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, NI, PORG
SUBJECT: CONVERSATIONS WITH OBASANJO AND INSPECTOR GENERAL
YUFIF: ECONOMIC TALKS AND LEFEVRE

REF: LAGOS 8326

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

I WAS ABLE TO EXCHANGE A FEW WORDS WITH OBASANJO DURING HIS WHIRLWIND VISIT JULY 8 TO TEXACO'S 7500 ACRE CASSAVA PLANTATION AND GARI FLOUR FACTORY TWO HOURS WEST OF ABEOKUTA (BY POT-HOLED DIRT ROAD). OBASANJO, WINDING UP HIS FOUR-DAY VISIT TO OGUN STATE, ARRIVED AT THE PROJECT TWO HOURS LATE (THE CONDITION OF THE ROAD DIDN'T HELP) AND WAS OBLIGED TO TELESCOPE HIS INSPECTION INTO A CURSORY ONCE-OVER-LIGHTLY TOUR OF THE FIELDS AND THE FACILITIES. HE WAS ENTHUSIASTIC, HOWEVER, ABOUT THE PROJECT AND TEXACO'S ROLE IN IT, ALTHOUGH HE URGED GREATER USE OF HERBICIDES AND MACHINES TO CUT DOWN ON MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS. IN HIS BRIEF SPEECH HE EXHORTED OTHER FOREIGN COMPANIES TO EMBARK ON SIMILAR JOINT VENTURES IN AGRI-BUSINESS. END UNCLASSIFIED
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LAGOS 08459 101527Z

BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

IT WAS UNFORTUNATELY NOT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO BROACH FOREIGN POLICY QUESTIONS WITH OBASANJO (E.G., NIGERIAN PSOTIONS TO BE ESPOUSED AT KHARTOUM). HE WAS SURROUNDED AT ALL TIMES BY STAFF, PRESS, SYCOPHANTS, ETC. HE SPOKE TO ME

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

SOMEWHAT IMPATIENTLY, HOWEVER, ABOUT THE STATUS OF FOLLOW-
UP TO THE US/NIGERIAN ECONOMIC TALKS. IN PARTICULAR HE
WANTED TO KNOW WHEN HE WOULD RECEIVE THE LIST HE HAD
REQUESTED OF COMPANIES NEWLY INTERESTED IN THE NIGERIAN
MARKET. I TOLD HIM WE HAD PREPARED THE LIST IN 24 HOURS
AFTER LEARNING OF HIS REQUEST, AND ABUBAHAR ALHAJI HAD
TOLD ME HE WAS ON THE POINT OF DELIVERING IT TO HIS OFFICE.

2. AS WE WALKED THROUGH THE FACTORY TOGETHER, I WAS
ABLE TO ASK INSPECTOR GENERAL YUSUF ABOUT THE STATUS OF
THE REPORTED DISMISSAL ACTION IN THE LEFEVRE/EGBE CASE.
HE REFUSED TO BE DRAWN OUT, MERELY STATING HE HAD SEEN
THE FILE ON HIS DESK TUESDAY NIGHT BEFORE LEAVING LAGOS
TO ACCOMPANY OBASANJO IN HIS VISIT TO OGUN STATE. WHEN
I ASKED IF I WAS CORRECT IN BELIEVING THAT HIS OFFICE HAD
TO APPROVE ANY PROPOSED DISMISSAL OF THE CASE, HE SAID
THAT THE PROSECUTION COULD DO IT WITHOUT HIM. AIG'S
RITTER TOLD CONSUL HUFFMAN TWO NIGHTS AGO THAT PROSECUTOR
WAZIRI HAD STILL NOT REPORTED TO WILLIAMS ON THE DISMISSAL MOVE.
HE WAS SCHEDULED TO DO SO MONDAY, JULY 10. RITTER WILL DEBRIEF
WILLIAMS JULY 11 AND THEN REPORT TO US. RITTER SAYS HE AND ABOUZEID
BELIEVE THAT FURTHER PRESSURE ON YUSUF, WHO IS PROVING INCREASINGLY
EVASIVE AND DIFFIDENT, MAY NOT BE PRUDENT FOR THE TIME BEING.
I AM INCLINED TO AGREE. AT ANY RATE, IT IS CLEAR THAT WE MUST
AWAIT GUIDANCE FROM WILLIAMS BEFORE DECIDING NEXT MOVES.
EASUMBT
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LAGOS 08459 101527Z

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, ECONOMIC PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LAGOS08459
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780282-0237
Format: TEL
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780780/aaaacpdx.tel
Line Count: 94
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4d83e378-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 LAGOS 8326
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2071122
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONVERSATIONS WITH OBASANJO AND INSPECTOR GENERAL YUFIF: ECONOMIC TALKS AND LEFEVRE
TAGS: CASC, PORG, NI, (OBASANJO, OLUSEGUN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4d83e378-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014